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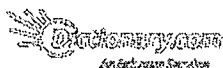
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**mul-ti-ple** [muhl-tuh-puh l] ⓘ Show IPA**—adjective**

1. consisting of, having, or involving several or many individuals, parts, elements, relations, etc.; manifold.
2. *Electricity* .
  - a. (of circuits) arranged in parallel.
  - b. (of a circuit or circuits) having a number of points at which connection can be made.
3. *Botany* . (of a fruit) collective.

**—noun**

4. *Mathematics* . a number that contains another number an integral number of times without a remainder: *12 is a multiple of 3.*
5. *Electricity* . a group of terminals arranged to make a circuit or group of circuits accessible at a number of points at any one of which connection can be made.

Use multiple in a Sentence**Origin:**

1570–80; < F < LL *multiplus* manifold. See *multi-*, *duple*

**—Related forms**

non-mul-ti-ple, *adjective, noun*

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## World English Dictionary

**multiple** (ˈmʌltɪpəl) ⓘ

**—adj**

1. having or involving more than one part, individual, etc: *he had multiple injuries*
2. ( US ), ( Canadian ) *electronics* (of a circuit) having a number of conductors in parallel

**—n**

3. the product of a given number or polynomial and any other one: *6 is a multiple of 2*
4. *telephony* an electrical circuit accessible at a number of points to any one of which a connection can be made
5. short for *multiple store*

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## Synonyms

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on·ly [ohn-lee] Show IPA

## -adverb

- without others or anything further; alone; solely; exclusively: *This information is for your eyes only.*
- no more than; merely; just: *If it were only true! I cook only on weekends.*
- as recently as: *I read that article only yesterday.*
- In the final outcome or decision: *You will only regret your harsh words to me.*

## -adjective

- being the single one or the relatively few of the kind: *This is the only pencil I can find.*
- having no sibling or no sibling of the same sex: *an only child; an only son.*
- single in superiority or distinction; unique; the best: *the one and only Muhammad Ali.*

## -conjunction

- but (introducing a single restriction, restraining circumstance, or the like): *I would have gone, only you objected.*
- Older Use . except; but: *Only for him you would not be here.*

## -Idiom

- only too,
  - as a matter of fact; extremely: *I am only too glad to go.*
  - unfortunately; very: *It is only too likely to happen.*

## Origin:

bef. 900; ME; OE *ānlich*, *ænlich*. See *one*, *-ly*

## -Synonyms

5. solitary, lone. 7. peerless; exclusive.

## -Antonyms

5. plentiful, common.

## -Usage note

The placement of ONLY as a modifier is more a matter of style and clarity than of grammatical rule. In a sentence like *The doctor examined the children*, varying the placement of ONLY results in quite different meanings: *The doctor only examined the children* means that the doctor did nothing else. And *The doctor examined only the children* means that no one else was examined. Especially in formal writing, the placement of ONLY immediately before what it modifies is often observed: *She sold the stock only because she needed the money*. However, there has long been a tendency in all varieties of speech and writing to place ONLY before the verb ( *She only sold the stock because she needed the money* ), and such placement is rarely confusing.

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